



**MINUTES
SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING
Log Cabin - 640 NE 114th Street
Biscayne Park, FL 33161
Monday, April 11, 2016 at 12:00pm**

1 Call to Order

Mayor David Coviello called the meeting to order at 12:00pm

2 Roll Call

Mayor David Coviello - present
Vice Mayor Barbara Watts - present
Commissioner Bob Anderson - present
Commissioner Fred Jonas - present
Commissioner Roxanna Ross - present

Present from staff were:

Village Manager Heidi Siegel
Village Clerk Maria C. Camara
Village Attorney John Hearn

3 Pledge of Allegiance

4 Additions, Deletions or Withdrawals to the Agenda

< None >

5 Public Comments

Dan Samaria: Holding meeting at this time is not right. Money was mishandled with the projects. Was this done in good faith? How can we run over and the Commission not know. Who managed the budget other than the Village Manager? Was there an allowance for overage. Calling for a forensic audit on this project and any others in the last 24 months. As a reporter I failed. I should have verified monies were properly spent. Calling for a full investigation.

Chester Morris: This was not a witch hunt. Don't be in a hurry to hire a new person. President of the Florida League of Cities is a good friend. If you need advice, contact him. Because of contract, suggest talking to League before hiring and get a forensic accounting. If I was a new comer, would want to verify.

Jorge Marinoni: A little shaken the way this is happening. Some of our neighbors are making a stink before getting the facts. If you don't have proof of any wrong doing, you are making unfounded accusations. Second Manager we are breaking.

Mike Kopsick: Upset last time I spoke. Did not mean to be mean. I am kind to those doing their job. Very glad to see the suggestions made and that you are having a meeting to review. Glad to see you are moving quickly. Thank you for taking our suggestions.

Max Deitermann: Very important to understand what we have here. We have 1,000 city managers, 1,000 police officers and 1,000 code officers. Not supposed to be like this. Let people we hire do their job. Do not micro-manage.

6 New Business

6.a Resignation of Village Manager

Attorney Hearn: Manager has notified the Village of her resignation. There is no severance, only payout of accrued vacation. Manager has also given the required 60 day notice, but is asking for an earlier separation date, April 29th.

Manager Siegel: Very proud of my record at Biscayne Park. Accomplished a lot. Proud of staff, both old and new. Resigning to move forward with my career and the betterment of my family. Not resigning due to the construction projects being 6% over budget.

Commissioner Jonas makes a motion to accept the Manager's request for the earlier separation date of April 29, 2016.

Mayor Coviello: Also agrees. In regards to Interim, asks Clerk Camara if she would take on that position.

Clerk Camara: Yes, would accept the position of Interim Village Manager.

Commissioner Ross seconds the motion made by Commissioner Jonas.

All in favor: Mayor Coviello, Vice Mayor Watts, Commissioner Anderson, Commissioner Jonas and Commissioner Ross

Opposed: None

Motion carries: 5/0

6.b Selection of Interim Village Manager

Commissioner Ross recommends utilizing a management firm similar to when Manager Spence resigned in 2009. When Manager Garcia left, there were other people in place, for example the Assistant to the Manager/Public Works Manager. Too much to put on one person. On the Florida City Manager's Association website, there is reference to services of retired city managers.

After discussion, motion by Commissioner Anderson to appoint Maria Camara as the Interim Village Manager and it is seconded by Commissioner Jonas.

All in favor: Mayor Coviello, Vice Mayor Watts, Commissioner Anderson, Commissioner Jonas and Commissioner Ross

Opposed: None

Motion carries: 5/0

Clerk Camara provided the information on the salary increase in August 2013 through December 2013 when in the position of Interim Village Manager.

Mayor Coviello: Recommends the same percentage salary increase as the last time in 2013.

Commissioner Anderson makes a motion to increase salary to \$75,000. Motion fails for lack of second.

Commissioner Ross makes a motion to increase salary by the same percentage as in 2013 and it is seconded by Vice Mayor Watts.

All in favor: Mayor Coviello, Vice Mayor Watts, Commissioner Anderson, and Commissioner Ross

Opposed: Commissioner Jonas

Motion carries: 4/1

Mayor Coviello: Discussion on raises for rest of Staff to be discussed at April 20th meeting.

6.c Village Manager Selection Process

Clerk Camara provided the process conducted in 2013 and the updated position posting.

After discussion, motion made by Commissioner Jonas to accept the same process and position and it is seconded by Commissioner Anderson.

All in favor: Mayor Coviello, Vice Mayor Watts, Commissioner Anderson, Commissioner Jonas and Commissioner Ross

Opposed: None

Motion carries: 5/0

Vice Mayor Watts asks that transcripts be provided by top applicants selected and there is consensus to add this change.

7 Announcements

Wednesday, April 20, 2016 - Special Commission Meeting at 6:30pm
Tuesday, May 3, 2016 - Regular Commission Meeting at 7:00pm

8 Adjournment

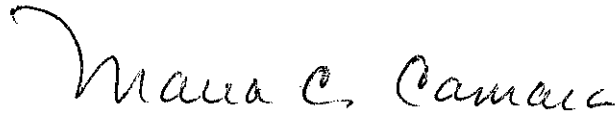
The meeting was adjourned at 12:53pm.

Commission approved on July 12, 2016.

Attest:



David Coviello, Mayor



Maria Camara, Village Clerk